LIFE AFTER
STRONGER BY DEGREES

Planning for the
Next Statewide Strategic Agenda

March 31, 2015

Goal of this session

To gather feedback from the higher education community about student success issues and strategies to better inform the 2016-2020 Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary and Adult Education.

Specific Focus

How can Kentucky improve student retention and completion, particularly for low-income, minority, and underprepared populations?
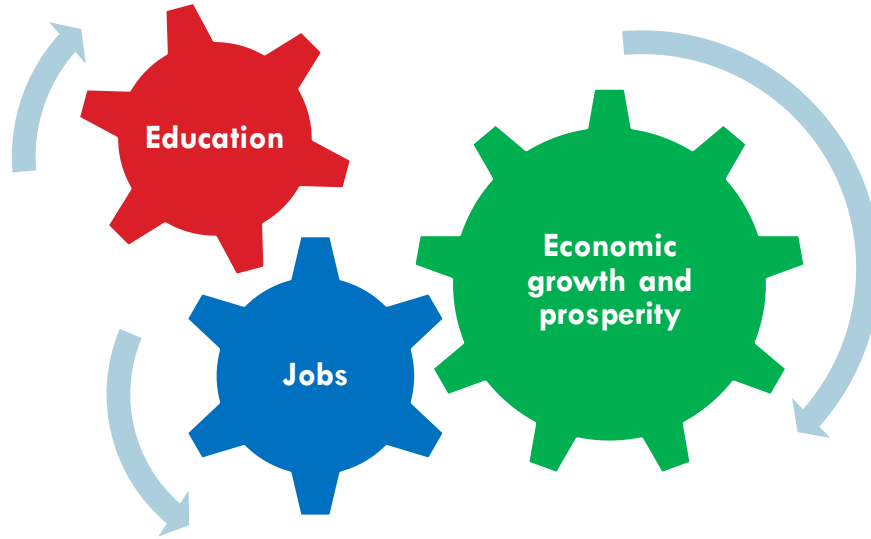
Strategic Agenda Background

- Part of Kentucky's 1997 higher education reforms
- Among the first states to strategically link state higher education goals with citizens' social well-being and economic prosperity
- Simple, short plan framed around key policy areas which are tied to state needs
- Comprehensive accountability system measuring progress at the state and campus levels
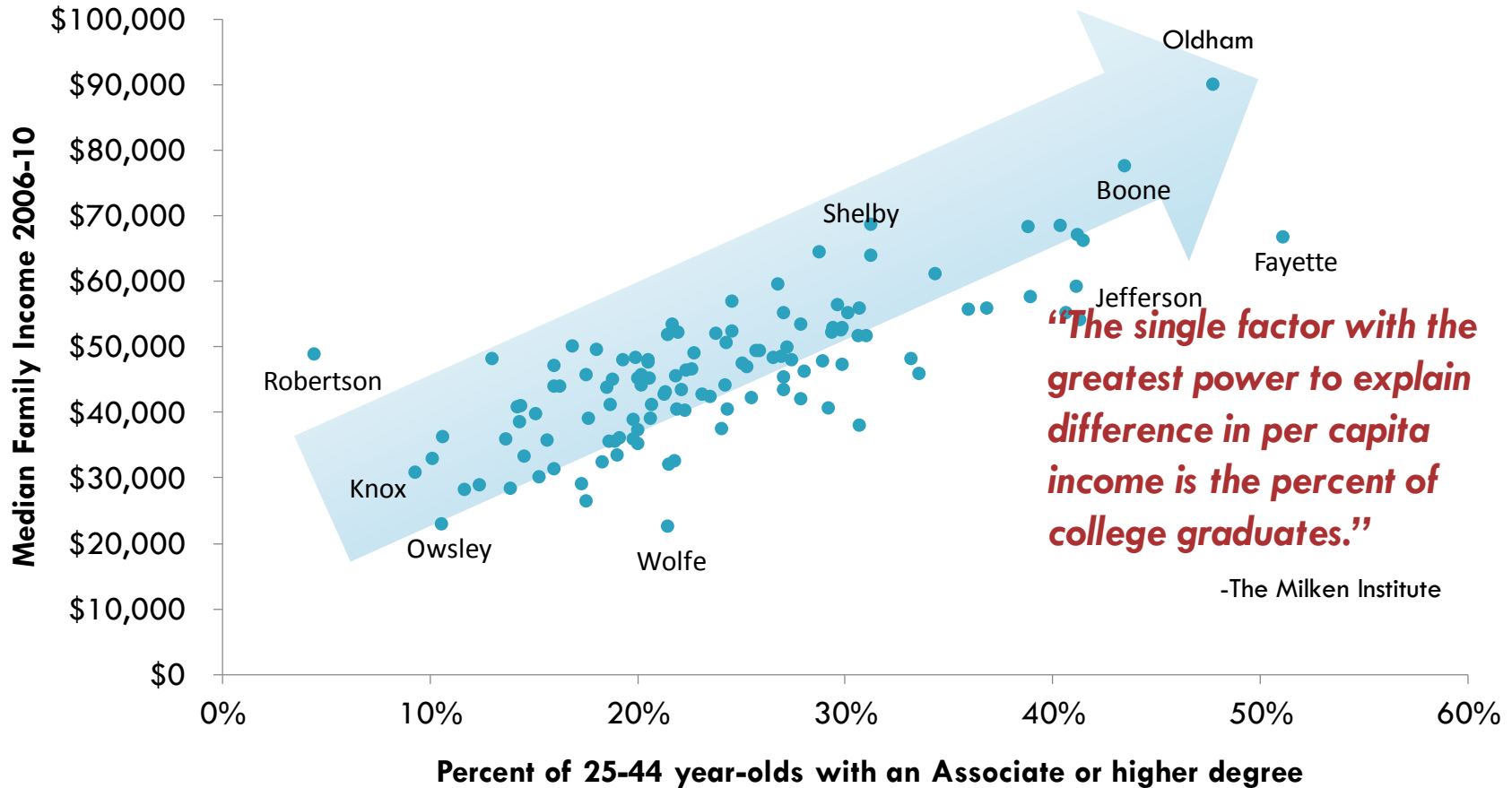- Updated every five years

Current Landscape

Educational Attainment, Jobs & Quality of Life are Inextricably Linked

The Link Between Earnings and Education in Kentucky by County

Median Family Income 2006-10

Percent of 25-44 year-olds with an Associate or higher degree

Oldham
Boone
Shelby
Jefferson
Fayette
Robertson
Knox
Owsley
Wolfe

"The single factor with the greatest power to explain difference in per capita income is the percent of college graduates."

-The Milken Institute

Higher Levels of Education Mean:

- Higher rates of voting and volunteering

- Lower rates of smoking & obesity

- Better health

- More tax revenue

- More parental involvement in schools

- Lower rates of incarceration

- Lower rates of unemployment/public assistance
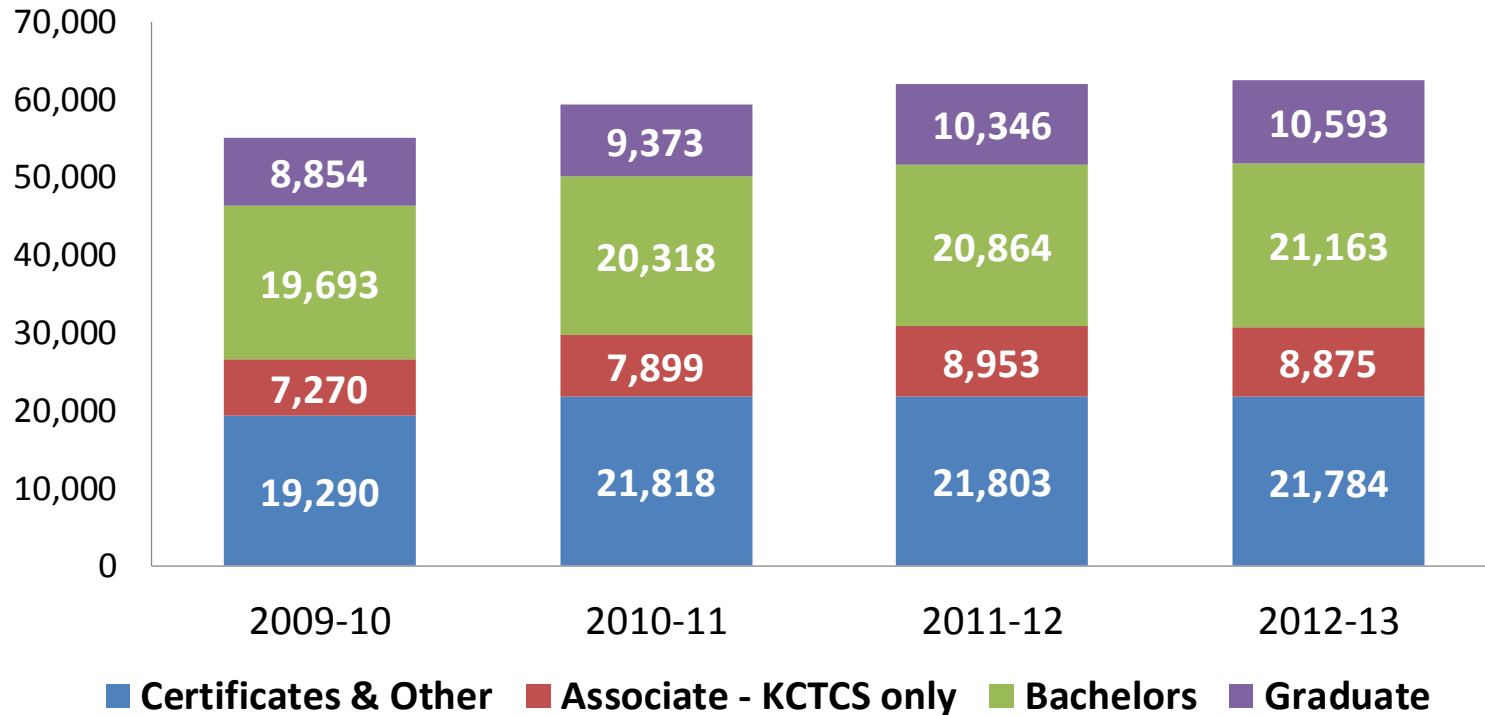
We are making progress

- ☐ Degrees and credentials have increased at all levels over the past five years

- ☐ Graduation rates are climbing (slowly); however, achievement gaps persist

- ☐ Credits transferred from KCTCS to four year campuses has risen significantly in recent years

- ☐ More students are taking advantage of online and early college options

- ☐ Educational attainment levels of our citizens is increasing.
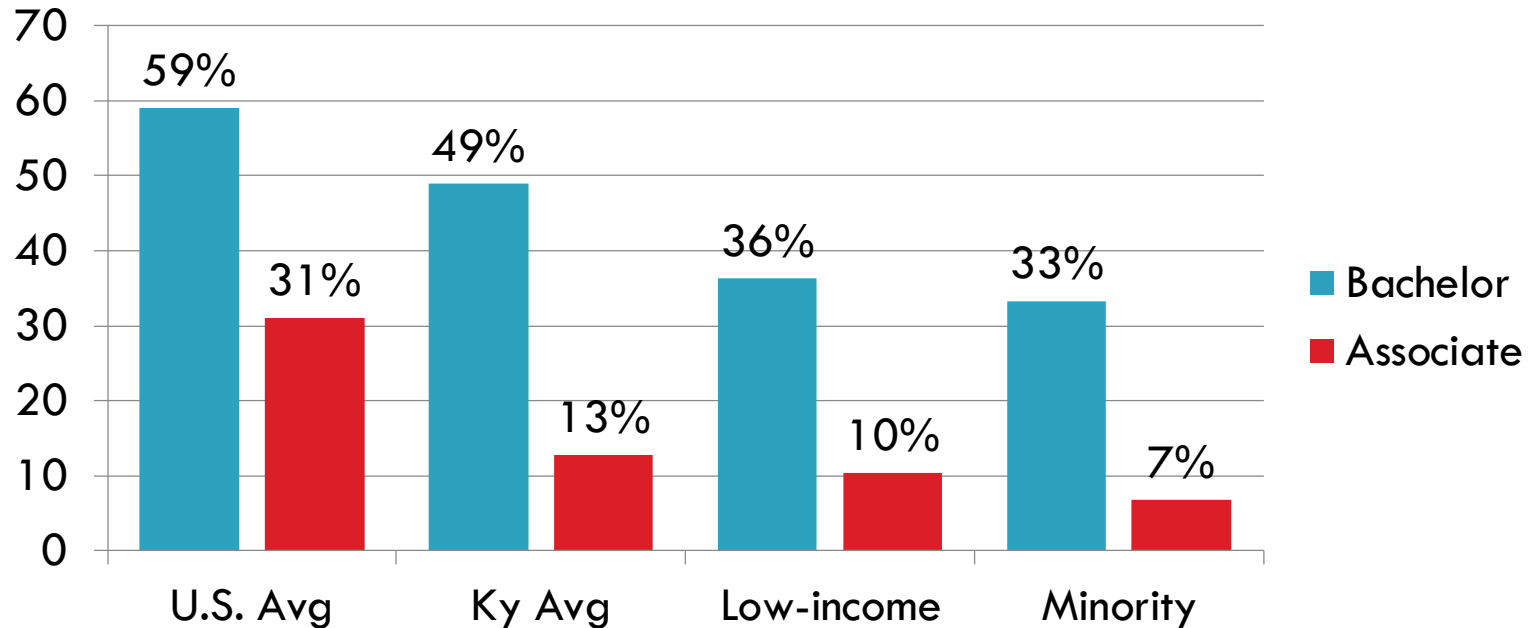
Degrees and Credentials

Steady growth in the number of degrees produced in KY

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Graduate	8,854	9,373	10,346	10,593
Bachelors	19,693	20,318	20,864	21,163
Associate - KCTCS only	7,270	7,899	8,953	8,875
Certificates & Other	19,290	21,818	21,803	21,784

■ Certificates & Other ■ Associate - KCTCS only ■ Bachelors ■ Graduate

Graduation rates

Graduation rates have increased, but gaps persist

Bar chart:

Category	Bachelor	Associate
U.S. Avg	59%	31%
Ky Avg	49%	13%
Low-income	36%	10%
Minority	33%	7%

Challenges on the Horizon

❖ Increasing and vocal **demand for talented, job-ready graduates** responsive to immediate workforce demands

❖ **Growing campus diversity** and increased attention to the needs of underrepresented and adult populations

❖ Growing levels of **student debt** and slowing support for financial aid and campus operations

❖ Growing debate about **value of college**

❖ Rise of **new academic models** (competency-based education, credit for prior learning)

❖ **Regional disparities** related to college going, student success and educational attainment

Percent of Population 25-64 with at Least an Associate Degree, 2009-13

Legend:
- 26.6% to 50.7%
- 22.3% to 26.6%
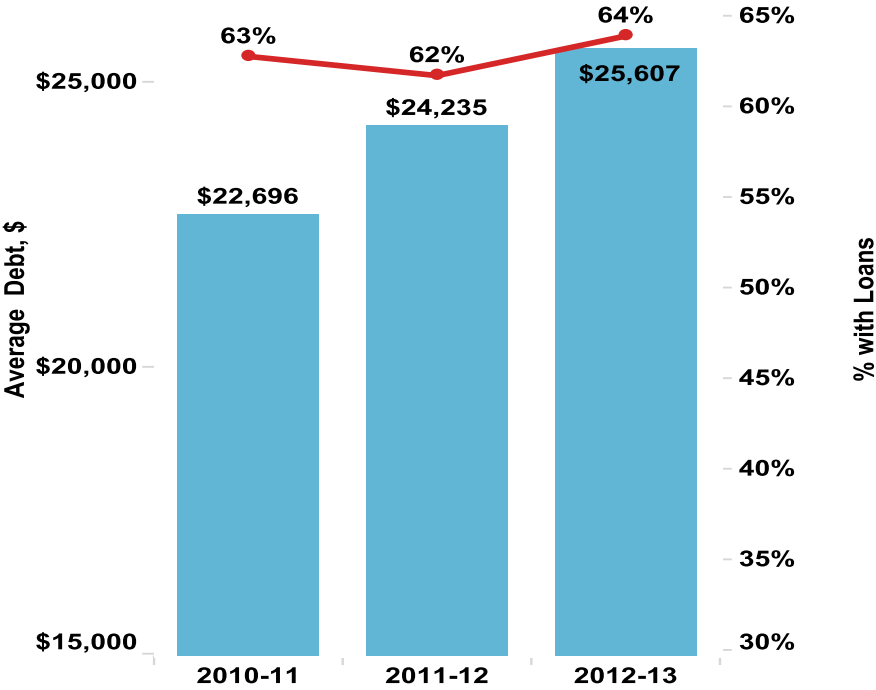- 18.2% to 22.3%
- 10.7% to 18.2%

KY = 31.4
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-10 American Community Survey.

Debt Levels

Loan Debt of Kentucky Public 4-Year Institutions' Graduates Has Increased Over the Past Years

Student debt in Kentucky is low by national standards, but has increased in recent years.

Key Initiatives

- Transfer Action Plan
- Degree Pathways
- P-20 Data System
- Professional Development

- Statewide Diversity Policy and Strategies
- Focus on quality and persistence
- 15 to Finish

Stronger By Degrees

Current Mission:

To deliver a world-class education to students, create and apply new knowledge, and grow the economy of the Commonwealth.

Four Focus Areas:

- □ College Readiness
- □ Student Success
- □ Research, Economic, and Community Development
- □ Efficiency & Innovation

STRONGER by DEGREES

A STRATEGIC AGENDA
for Kentucky Postsecondary
and Adult Education

KENTUCKY COUNCIL ON
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

2011-2015

Student Success – Objectives and Strategies

Policy Objective 4: Increase high-quality degree production and completion rates and close achievement gaps for lower-income, underprepared, and underrepresented minority students.

Specific strategies

- ☐ Maximize KCTCS's role as a high quality, low-cost provider of postsecondary education and transfer opportunities.

- ☐ Provide incentives to increase degree production and completion rates.

- ☐ Increase use of data, research, and technology to improve learning & outcomes.

Student Success – Objectives and Strategies

Policy Objective 4 strategies (continued)

- ☐ Support new pathways for adult learners to enroll and complete postsecondary degrees and credentials.

- ☐ Promote student engagement, undergraduate research, internships, and other educational opportunities that improve the quality of the student experience, develop leaders, and lead to success after graduation.

Student Success Metrics

- ☐ Number of Degrees and Credentials
- ☐ Transfers
- ☐ Graduation rates
- ☐ Percentage of credits earned through online learning
- ☐ Total credits earned by bachelor degree graduates

Time to brainstorm